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FOR CONSIDERATION By the Committee on Criminal Justice

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to juvenile justice; amending s. 985.03, F.S.; defining the term "ordinary medical care"; amending s. 985.04, F.S.; providing that confidential information obtained during an official's service with juvenile delinquents may be shared with authorized personnel of the Department of Children and Family Services; amending s. 985.494, F.S.; removing references to the early delinquency intervention program when the court considers where to commit a delinquent; amending s. 985.601, F.S.; requiring the Department of Juvenile Justice to adopt rules to establish procedures to provide ordinary medical care, mental health, substance abuse, and developmental disabilities services to youth within the juvenile justice continuum; requiring that, to the extent possible within available fiscal resources, the procedures must be commensurate with procedures that youth receive in the community; amending s. 985.644, F.S.; deleting references to the Department of Children and Family Services for contracting services that carry out the purposes of the Department of Juvenile Justice; amending s. 985.66, F.S.; transferring the responsibility for the juvenile justice training program from the Juvenile Justice Standards and Training Commission to the Department of Juvenile Justice; requiring the department to adopt rules; repealing s. 985.61, F.S., relating to the early delinquency intervention program; amending s. 985.721, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; providing an effective date.

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Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsections (39) through (57) of section 985.03, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (40) through (58), respectively, and a new subsection (38) is added to that section, to read:

985.03 Definitions.--As used in this chapter, the term:

- (38) "Ordinary medical care" means medical procedures that are administered or performed on a routine basis and that do not involve hospitalization, surgery, or the use of general anesthesia and include, but are not limited to, inoculations, physical examinations, and remedial treatment for minor illnesses and injuries.
- Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 985.04, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

985.04 Oaths; records; confidential information. --

(1) Except as provided in subsections (2), (3), (6), and (7) and s. 943.053, all information obtained under this chapter in the discharge of official duty by any judge, any employee of the court, any authorized agent of the department, the Parole Commission, the Department of Corrections, the Department of Children and Family Services, the juvenile justice circuit boards, any law enforcement agent, or any licensed professional or licensed community agency representative participating in the assessment or treatment of a juvenile is confidential and may be disclosed only to the authorized personnel of the court, the department and its designees, the Department of Corrections, the Department of Children and Family Services, the Parole Commission, law enforcement agents, school superintendents and

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their designees, any licensed professional or licensed community agency representative participating in the assessment or treatment of a juvenile, and others entitled under this chapter to receive that information, or upon order of the court. Within each county, the sheriff, the chiefs of police, the district school superintendent, and the department shall enter into an interagency agreement for the purpose of sharing information about juvenile offenders among all parties. The agreement must specify the conditions under which summary criminal history information is to be made available to appropriate school personnel, and the conditions under which school records are to be made available to appropriate department personnel. Such agreement shall require notification to any classroom teacher of assignment to the teacher's classroom of a juvenile who has been placed in a probation or commitment program for a felony offense. The agencies entering into such agreement must comply with s. 943.0525, and must maintain the confidentiality of information that is otherwise exempt from s. 119.07(1), as provided by law.

Section 3. Subsection (1) of section 985.494, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

985.494 Commitment programs for juvenile felony offenders.--

- (1) Notwithstanding any other law and regardless of the child's age, a child who is adjudicated delinquent, or for whom adjudication is withheld, for an act that would be a felony if committed by an adult, shall be committed to:
- (a) A sheriff's training and respect program under s. 985.4891 if the child has participated in an early delinquency intervention program as provided in s. 985.61.

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(b) A program for serious or habitual juvenile offenders under s. 985.47 or an intensive residential treatment program for offenders less than 13 years of age under s. 985.483, if the child has participated in an early delinquency intervention program and has completed a sheriff's training and respect program.

- (c) A maximum-risk residential program, if the child has participated in an early delinquency intervention program, has completed a sheriff's training and respect program, and has completed a program for serious or habitual juvenile offenders or an intensive residential treatment program for offenders less than 13 years of age. The commitment of a child to a maximum-risk residential program must be for an indeterminate period, but may not exceed the maximum term of imprisonment that an adult may serve for the same offense.
- Section 4. Subsection (2) of section 985.601, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 985.601 Administering the juvenile justice continuum.--
- (2) (a) The department shall develop and implement an appropriate continuum of care that provides individualized, multidisciplinary assessments, objective evaluations of relative risks, and the matching of needs with placements for all children under its care, and that uses a system of case management to facilitate each child being appropriately assessed, provided with services, and placed in a program that meets the child's needs.
- (b) As part of the continuum of services, the department shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 120 establishing procedures to provide ordinary medical care, mental health, substance abuse, and developmental disabilities services to youth within the

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juvenile justice continuum as defined in s. 985.03. These procedures shall, to the extent possible within available fiscal resources, be commensurate with procedures that youth receive in the community. Further, these procedures must ensure that the ordinary medical care, mental health, substance abuse, and developmental disabilities services in department programs and facilities are rendered in accordance with existing state and federal health care statutes, regulations, and rules.

Section 5. Section 985.644, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

985.644 Departmental contracting powers; personnel standards and screening.--

- (1) The department of Juvenile Justice or the Department of Children and Family Services, as appropriate, may contract with the Federal Government, other state departments and agencies, county and municipal governments and agencies, public and private agencies, and private individuals and corporations in carrying out the purposes of, and the responsibilities established in, this chapter.
- Department of Children and Family Services contracts with a provider for any program for children, all personnel, including owners, operators, employees, and volunteers, in the facility must be of good moral character. Each contract entered into by either department for services delivered on an appointment or intermittent basis by a provider that does not have regular custodial responsibility for children and each contract with a school for before or aftercare services must ensure that the owners, operators, and all personnel who have direct contact with

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children are of good moral character. A volunteer who assists on an intermittent basis for less than 40 hours per month need not be screened if the volunteer is under direct and constant supervision by persons who meet the screening requirements.

- (b) The department of Juvenile Justice and the Department of Children and Family Services shall require employment screening pursuant to chapter 435, using the level 2 standards set forth in that chapter for personnel in programs for children or youths.
- (c) The department of Juvenile Justice or the Department of Children and Family Services may grant exemptions from disqualification from working with children as provided in s. 435.07.
- (2) The department may contract with the Federal Government, other state departments and agencies, county and municipal governments and agencies, public and private agencies, and private individuals and corporations in carrying out the purposes and the responsibilities of the delinquency services and programs of the department.
- (2) The department shall adopt a rule pursuant to chapter 120 establishing a procedure to provide notice of policy changes that affect contracted delinquency services and programs. A policy is defined as an operational requirement that applies to only the specified contracted delinquency service or program. The procedure must shall include:
 - (a) Public notice of policy development.
 - (b) Opportunity for public comment on the proposed policy.
- (c) Assessment for fiscal impact upon the department and providers.

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(d) The department's response to comments received.

- (4) When the department contracts with a provider for any delinquency service or program, all personnel, including all owners, operators, employees, and volunteers in the facility or providing the service or program shall be of good moral character. A volunteer who assists on an intermittent basis for less than 40 hours per month is not required to be screened if the volunteer is under direct and constant supervision by persons who meet the screening requirements.
- (3) (5) (a) For any person employed by the department, or by a provider under contract with the department, in delinquency facilities, services, or programs, the department shall require:
- 1. A level 2 employment screening pursuant to chapter 435 prior to employment.
- 2. A federal criminal records check by the Federal Bureau of Investigation every 5 years following the date of the person's employment.
- (b) Except for law enforcement, correctional, and correctional probation officers, to whom s. 943.13(5) applies, the department shall electronically submit to the Department of Law Enforcement:
- 1. Fingerprint information obtained during the employment screening required by subparagraph (a)1.
- 2. Beginning on December 15, 2005, fingerprint information for all persons employed by the department, or by a provider under contract with the department, in delinquency facilities, services, or programs if such fingerprint information has not previously been electronically submitted to the Department of Law Enforcement under this paragraph.

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All fingerprint information electronically submitted to the Department of Law Enforcement under paragraph (b) shall be retained by the Department of Law Enforcement and entered into the statewide automated fingerprint identification system authorized by s. 943.05(2)(b). Thereafter, such fingerprint information shall be available for all purposes and uses authorized for arrest fingerprint information entered into the statewide automated fingerprint identification system pursuant to s. 943.051 until the fingerprint information is removed under pursuant to paragraph (e). The Department of Law Enforcement shall search all arrest fingerprint information received pursuant to s. 943.051 against the fingerprint information entered into the statewide automated fingerprint system under pursuant to this subsection. Any arrest records identified as a result of the search shall be reported to the department in the manner and timeframe established by the Department of Law Enforcement by rule.

(d) The department shall pay an annual fee to the Department of Law Enforcement for its costs resulting from the fingerprint information retention services required by this subsection. The amount of the annual fee and procedures for the submission and retention of fingerprint information and for the dissemination of search results shall be established by the Department of Law Enforcement by adopting a rule that is applicable to the department individually under pursuant to this subsection or that is applicable to the department and other employing agencies pursuant to rulemaking authority otherwise provided by law.

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Enforcement when a person whose fingerprint information is retained by the Department of Law Enforcement under this subsection is no longer employed by the department, or by a provider under contract with the department, in a delinquency facility, service, or program. This notice shall be provided by the department to the Department of Law Enforcement no later than 6 months after the date of the change in the person's employment status. Fingerprint information for persons identified by the department in the notice shall be removed from the statewide automated fingerprint system.

 $\underline{(4)}$ (6) The department may grant exemptions from disqualification from working with children as provided in s. 435.07.

Section 6. Section 985.66, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

985.66 Juvenile justice training academies; Juvenile Justice Standards and Training Commission; Juvenile Justice Training Trust Fund.--

(1) LEGISLATIVE PURPOSE. -- In order to enable the state to provide a systematic approach to staff development and training for judges, state attorneys, public defenders, law enforcement officers, school district personnel, and juvenile justice program staff that will meet the needs of such persons in their discharge of duties while at the same time meeting the requirements for the American Correction Association accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation for Corrections, it is the purpose of the Legislature to require the department to establish, maintain, and oversee the operation of juvenile justice training academies in

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the state. The purpose of the Legislature in establishing staff development and training programs is to foster better staff morale and reduce mistreatment and aggressive and abusive behavior in delinquency programs; to positively impact the recidivism of children in the juvenile justice system; and to afford greater protection of the public through an improved level of services delivered by a professionally trained juvenile justice program staff to children who are alleged to be or who have been found to be delinquent.

- (2) JUVENILE JUSTICE STANDARDS AND TRAINING COMMISSION. --
- (a) There is created under the Department of Juvenile Justice the Juvenile Justice Standards and Training Commission, hereinafter referred to as the commission. The 17-member commission shall consist of the Attorney General or designee, the Commissioner of Education or designee, a member of the juvenile court judiciary to be appointed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, and 14 members to be appointed by the Secretary of Juvenile Justice as follows:
- 1. Seven members shall be juvenile justice professionals: a superintendent or a direct care staff member from an institution; a director from a contracted community-based program; a superintendent and a direct care staff member from a regional detention center or facility; a juvenile probation officer supervisor and a juvenile probation officer; and a director of a day treatment or conditional release program. No fewer than three of these members shall be contract providers.
- 2. Two members shall be representatives of local law enforcement agencies.

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3. One member shall be an educator from the state's university and community college program of criminology, criminal justice administration, social work, psychology, sociology, or other field of study pertinent to the training of juvenile justice program staff.

- 4. One member shall be a member of the public.
- 5. One member shall be a state attorney, or assistant state attorney, who has juvenile court experience.
- 6. One member shall be a public defender, or assistant public defender, who has juvenile court experience.
- 7. One member shall be a representative of the business community.

All appointed members shall be appointed to serve terms of 2 years.

- (b) The composition of the commission shall be broadly reflective of the public and shall include minorities and women. The term "minorities" as used in this paragraph means a member of a socially or economically disadvantaged group that includes blacks, Hispanics, and American Indians.
- (c) The Department of Juvenile Justice shall provide the commission with staff necessary to assist the commission in the performance of its duties.
- (d) The commission shall annually elect its chairperson and other officers. The commission shall hold at least four regular meetings each year at the call of the chairperson or upon the written request of three members of the commission. A majority of the members of the commission constitutes a quorum. Members of the commission shall serve without compensation but are entitled

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to be reimbursed for per diem and travel expenses as provided by s. 112.061 and these expenses shall be paid from the Juvenile Justice Training Trust Fund.

- (e) The <u>department</u> powers, duties, and functions of the commission shall be to:
- (a) 1. Designate the location of the training academies; develop, implement, maintain, and update the curriculum to be used in the training of juvenile justice program staff; establish timeframes for participation in and completion of training by juvenile justice program staff; develop, implement, maintain, and update job-related examinations; develop, implement, and update the types and frequencies of evaluations of the training academies; approve, modify, or disapprove the budget for the training academies, and the contractor to be selected to organize and operate the training academies and to provide the training curriculum.
- (b) 2. Establish uniform minimum job-related training courses and examinations for juvenile justice program staff.
- (c) 3. Consult and cooperate with the state or any political subdivision; any private entity or contractor; and with private and public universities, colleges, community colleges, and other educational institutions concerning the development of juvenile justice training and programs or courses of instruction, including, but not limited to, education and training in the areas of juvenile justice.
- (d) 4. Enter into With the approval of the department, make and enter into such contracts and agreements with other agencies, organizations, associations, corporations, individuals, or

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federal agencies as the commission determines are necessary in the execution of its powers or the performance of its duties.

- 5. Make recommendations to the Department of Juvenile

 Justice concerning any matter within the purview of this section.
- commission shall establish a certifiable program for juvenile justice training under pursuant to this section, and all department program staff and providers who deliver direct care services pursuant to a contract with the department shall—be required to participate in and successfully complete the commission—approved program of training pertinent to their areas of responsibility. Judges, state attorneys, and public defenders, law enforcement officers, and school district personnel may participate in the such training program. For the juvenile justice program staff, the department commission shall, based on a job-task analysis:
- (a) Design, implement, maintain, evaluate, and revise a basic training program, including a competency-based examination, for the purpose of providing minimum employment training qualifications for all juvenile justice personnel. All program staff of the department and providers who deliver direct-care services who are hired after October 1, 1999, must meet the following minimum requirements:
 - 1. Be at least 19 years of age.
- 2. Be a high school graduate or its equivalent as determined by the department commission.
- 3. Not have been convicted of any felony or a misdemeanor involving perjury or a false statement, or have received a dishonorable discharge from any of the Armed Forces of the United

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States. Any person who, after September 30, 1999, pleads guilty or nolo contendere to or is found guilty of any felony or a misdemeanor involving perjury or false statement is not eligible for employment, notwithstanding suspension of sentence or withholding of adjudication. Notwithstanding this subparagraph, any person who pled nolo contendere to a misdemeanor involving a false statement before October 1, 1999, and who has had such record of that plea sealed or expunged is not ineligible for employment for that reason.

- 4. Abide by all the provisions of s. 985.644(1) regarding fingerprinting and background investigations and other screening requirements for personnel.
- 5. Execute and submit to the department an affidavit-of-application form, adopted by the department, attesting to his or her compliance with subparagraphs 1.-4. The affidavit must be executed under oath and constitutes an official statement under s. 837.06. The affidavit must include conspicuous language that the intentional false execution of the affidavit constitutes a misdemeanor of the second degree. The employing agency shall retain the affidavit.
- (b) Design, implement, maintain, evaluate, and revise an advanced training program, including a competency-based examination for each training course, which is intended to enhance knowledge, skills, and abilities related to job performance.
- (c) Design, implement, maintain, evaluate, and revise a career development training program, including a competency-based examination for each training course. Career development courses are intended to prepare personnel for promotion.

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(d) The <u>department</u> commission is encouraged to design, implement, maintain, evaluate, and revise juvenile justice training courses, or to enter into contracts for such training courses, that are intended to provide for the safety and wellbeing of both citizens and juvenile offenders.

- (4) JUVENILE JUSTICE TRAINING TRUST FUND. --
- Justice Training Trust Fund to be used by the Department of Juvenile Justice for the purpose of funding the development and updating of a job-task analysis of juvenile justice personnel; the development, implementation, and updating of job-related training courses and examinations; and the cost of commission-approved juvenile justice training courses; and reimbursement for expenses as provided in s. 112.061 for members of the commission and staff.
- (b) One dollar from every noncriminal traffic infraction collected <u>under pursuant</u> to ss. 318.14(10)(b) and 318.18 shall be deposited into the Juvenile Justice Training Trust Fund.
- (c) In addition to the funds generated by paragraph (b), the trust fund may receive funds from any other public or private source.
- (d) Funds that are not expended by the end of the budget cycle or through a supplemental budget approved by the department shall revert to the trust fund.
- (5) ESTABLISHMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE TRAINING ACADEMIES.—The number, location, and establishment of juvenile justice training academies shall be determined by the <u>department</u> commission.
 - (6) SCHOLARSHIPS AND STIPENDS. --

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The department shall adopt a By rule to, the commission shall establish criteria to award scholarships or stipends to qualified juvenile justice personnel who are residents of the state who want to pursue a bachelor's or associate in arts degree in juvenile justice or a related field. The department shall handle the administration of the scholarship or stipend. The Department of Education shall handle the notes issued for the payment of the scholarships or stipends. All scholarship and stipend awards shall be paid from the Juvenile Justice Training Trust Fund upon vouchers approved by the Department of Education and properly certified by the Chief Financial Officer. Prior to the award of a scholarship or stipend, the juvenile justice employee must agree in writing to practice her or his profession in juvenile justice or a related field for 1 month for each month of grant or to repay the full amount of the scholarship or stipend together with interest at the rate of 5 percent per annum over a period not to exceed 10 years. Repayment shall be made payable to the state for deposit into the Juvenile Justice Training Trust Fund.

- (b) The <u>department</u> commission may establish the scholarship program by rule and implement the program on or after July 1, 1996.
- (7) ADOPTION OF RULES.--The <u>department</u> commission shall adopt rules as necessary to <u>administer</u> carry out the provisions of this section.
- (8) PARTICIPATION OF CERTAIN PROGRAMS IN THE STATE RISK MANAGEMENT TRUST FUND.—Pursuant to s. 284.30, the Division of Risk Management of the Department of Financial Services is authorized to insure a private agency, individual, or corporation

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operating a state-owned training school under a contract to carry out the purposes and responsibilities of any program of the department. The coverage authorized herein shall be under the same general terms and conditions as the department is insured for its responsibilities under chapter 284.

- (9) The Juvenile Justice Standards and Training Commission is terminated on June 30, 2001, and such termination shall be reviewed by the Legislature prior to that date.
- Section 7. Section 985.61, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

 Section 8. Section 985.721, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 985.721 Escapes from secure detention or residential commitment facility.—An escape from:
- (1) Any secure detention facility maintained for the temporary detention of children, pending adjudication, disposition, or placement;
- (2) Any residential commitment facility described in \underline{s} . $\underline{985.03(45)}$ \underline{s} . $\underline{985.03(44)}$, maintained for the custody, treatment, punishment, or rehabilitation of children found to have committed delinquent acts or violations of law; or
- (3) Lawful transportation to or from any such secure detention facility or residential commitment facility,

constitutes escape within the intent and meaning of s. 944.40 and is a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

Section 9. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.